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A

SHORT ACCOUNT
OF THE
SITUATIONS and INCIDENTS
EXHIBITED IN THE
PANTOMIME
OF
ROBINSON CRUSOE,
AT THE
THEATRE-ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.
T
(Taken from the ORIGINAL STORY.)

L O N D O N:

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EVALUATION

A

SHORT ACCOUNT, &c.

SCENE I.

Represents the habitation of Robinson Crusoe, "A tent under the side of a
" rock, surrounded with a strong pale of posts
" and cables, with a kind of wall of turfs;
" and, after he had been there about a year
" and a half, he had raised rafters from it,
" leaning on the rock, and thatched and co-
" vered it with trees, and such things as he
" could get to keep out the rain."---Robinson Crusoe describes the situation in these words :

" In search of a place proper for this I found a lit-
" tle plain on the side of a rising hill, whose form
" towards this plain was as steep as an house-
" side, so that nothing could come down upon me
" from the top: on the side of this rock there was an
" hollow place, worn a little way in, like the en-
" trance or door of a cave, but there was not really
" any cave or way into the rock at all.

A 2

" On

“ On the flat of the green, just before this hollow
 “ place I resolv'd to pitch my tent ; but first I drew an
 “ half-circle before the hollow place, in which I
 “ pitched two rows of strong stakes, and then laid
 “ the pieces of cable which I had cut in the ship,
 “ in rows upon one another, within the circle, and
 “ between those two rows of stakes, placing others
 “ in the inside, leaning against them, and this
 “ fence was so strong, that neither man or beast
 “ could get into it, or over it. This cost me a
 “ great deal of time and labour, especially to cut
 “ the piles in the wood, bring them to the place,
 “ and drive them into the earth.

From this habitation Robinson Crusoe de-
 scends exactly according to the history. These
 are his words :

“ The passage from this place I made to be, not
 “ by a door, but by a short ladder, which when I went
 “ in or out, I lifted over after me ; and so I was
 “ completely fenced in, and fortified.”

His theatrical dress is also strictly conform-
 able to his own account of it. These are his
 words.

“ Had any one in *England* been to meet such a
 “ Man as I was it must either have frightened them,
 “ or raised a great deal of laughter ; and as I fre-
 “ quently stood still to look at myself, I could not
 “ but smile at the notion of my travelling thro'
 “ *Yorkshire* with such an equipage and in such a dress.
 “ Be pleased to take a sketch of my figure, as follows:

“ I had a great high shapeless cap, made of goat’s-
 “ skin with a flap hanging down behind, as well
 “ to keep the sun from me, as to shoot the rain off
 “ my neck.

“ I had a short jacket of goat’s-skin, the skirts
 “ coming down to about the middle of my thighs;
 “ and a pair of open-kneed breeches of the same :
 “ the breeches were made of an old skin whose hair
 “ hung down such a length on either side, that, like
 “ *pantaloon*s it reach’d to the middle of my legs.
 “ Stockings and shoes I had none ; but I had made
 “ me a pair of something, I scarce knew what to call
 “ them, like buskins, to flap over my legs, and lace
 “ on either side like spatterdashies ; but of a most
 “ barbarous shape, as indeed were all the rest of my
 “ cloathes.

“ I had on a broad belt of goat’s-skin dry’d, which
 “ I drew together with two thongs of the same, in-
 “ stead of buckles ; and in a kind of a frog on either
 “ side, of this, instead of a sword and dagger, hung
 “ a little saw and an hatchet, one on one side, one on
 “ the other. I had another belt not so broad and
 “ fastened in the same manner, which hung over my
 “ shoulder ; and at the end of it, under my left
 “ arm, hung two pouches, both made of goat’s skin
 “ too ; in one of which hung my powder, in the
 “ other my shot : at my back I carried a great clumsy
 “ ugly goat skin umbrella, but which, after all, was
 “ the most necessary thing I had about me, next to
 “ my gun : My beard I had
 “ once suffer’d to grow till it was about a Quarter
 “ of a yard long ; but as I had both scissars and
 “ razors sufficient, I had cut it pretty short except
 “ what grew on my upper lip, which I had trim’d
 “ into a large pair of *Mahometan* whiskers, such as
 “ I had seen worn by some *Turks*, whom I saw at

Sallee ;

“ *Sallee* ; for the *Moors* did not wear such, tho’ the
 “ *Turks* did : of these mustachios, or whiskers, I
 “ will not say they were long enough to hang my
 “ hat upon them ; but they were of length and
 “ shape monstrous enough, and such as in *England*
 “ would have pass’d for frightful.

In this first scene also is exhibited the melancholy way in which this desolate mariner contrived, by a wooden calender, to keep an account of his silent solitary life.

“ After I had been there about ten or twelve days,
 “ it came into my thoughts that I should lose my
 “ reckoning of time for want of books, and pen and
 “ ink, and should even forget the sabbath days from
 “ the working days : But to prevent this, I cut it with
 “ my knife upon a large post, in capital letters ; and
 “ making it into a great cross, I set it up on the shore
 “ where I first landed, viz. *I come on shore here the 30th*
 “ *of September, 1649.* Upon the sides of this square
 “ post I cut every day a notch with my knife and every
 “ seventh notch was as long again as that long one ;
 “ and thus I kept my kalender or weekly, monthly,
 “ and yearly reckoning of time.

And here also is introduced the interesting circumstance of the parrot’s return.

“ I got over the fence, and laid me down in the
 “ shade to rest my limbs, for I was very weary, and
 “ fell asleep : But judge you, if you can, that
 “ read my story, what a surprise I must be in, when
 “ I heard a voice calling me by my name several
 “ times, *Robin, Robin, Robin Crusoe*, poor *Robin*
 “ *Crusoe* !

“ However,

“ At first I thought it had been a dream, and start-
 “ ed up in the utmost consternation : But I soon
 “ saw my *Pol* sitting on the top of the hedge, and
 “ immediately knew that this was he that spoke to
 “ me ; for just in such bemoaning language I had
 “ used to talk to him, and teach him.

“ However, even though I knew it was the par-
 “ rot, it was a good while before I could compose
 “ myself. But as I was well satisfied it could be
 “ nobody but honest *Pol*, I got it over ; and hold-
 “ ing out my hand, and calling him by his name,
 “ *Pol*, the social creature came to me, and sat upon
 “ my thumb, just as if he had been overjoyed to
 “ see me again ; and so I carried him home along
 “ with me.”

S C E N E II.

Is a view of the grove near the sea-shore,
 where Robinson Crusoe worked on two boats.
 His long labour and final disappointment in
 the first, are thus feelingly described :

“ I went to work upon this boat the most like a
 “ fool that ever man did, who had any of his senses
 “ awake. I pleased myself with the design, without de-
 “ termining whether I was ever able to undertake it ;
 “ not but that the difficulty of launching my boat
 “ come often into my head ; but I put a stop to my
 “ own inquiries into it by this foolish answer, which I
 “ gave myself ; *let me first make it, I'll warrant I'll find*
 “ *some way or other to get it along, when it is done.*

“ This was a most preposterous method ; but the
 “ eagerness of my fancy prevailed, and to work I went,
 “ and

“ and felled a cedar-tree : I question much whether
 “ *Salomon* ever had such an one for the building the
 “ temple at *Jerusalem* ; it was five feet ten inches
 “ diameter at the lower part next the stump, and four
 “ feet eleven inches diameter at the end of twenty-
 “ two feet, after which it lessened for a while, and
 “ then parted into branches : it was not without in-
 “ finite labour that I felled this tree : I was twenty
 “ days hacking and hewing at it at the bottom ; I was
 “ fourteen more getting the branches, limbs, and the
 “ vast spreading head of it cut off : which I hacked
 “ and hewed through with my ax and hatchet, an
 “ inexpressible labour : after this it cost me a month
 “ to shape it, and dub it to a proportion, and to
 “ something like the bottom of a boat, that it might
 “ swim upright as it ought to do. It cost me near
 “ three months more to clear the inside, and work it
 “ out so, as to make an exact boat of it : this I did
 “ indeed without fire, by mere mallet and chissel,
 “ and by the dint of hard labour ; till I had brought
 “ it to be a very handsome *Periagua*, and big enough
 “ to have carried six and twenty men, and conse-
 “ quently big enough to have carried me and all my
 “ cargo.

“ When I had gone through this work, I was ex-
 “ tremely delighted with it : the boat was really much
 “ bigger than I ever saw a *Canoe* or *Periagua*, that
 “ was made of one tree, in my life ; many a weary
 “ stroke it cost, you may be sure, for there remained
 “ nothing but to get it into water, I make no ques-
 “ tion, but I should have begun the madest voyage,
 “ and the most unlikely to be performed, that ever
 “ was undertaken.

“ But all my devices to get it into the water
 “ failed me, though they cost infinite labour too ; it
 “ lay about one hundred yards from the water, and
 “ not more ; but the first inconvenience was, it was up
 “ hill

“ up hill towards the creek : to take away this
 “ discouragement, I resolved to dig into the surface
 “ of the earth, and so make a declivity ; this I began,
 “ and it cost me a prodigious deal of pains : but
 “ when this was worked through, and this diffi-
 “ culty managed, it was still much at one ; for I
 “ could no more stir the *Canoe*, than I could the other
 “ boat ; so at length, though with great reluctance,
 “ I gave this attempt over also.

“ This grieved me heartily, and now I saw, though
 “ too late, the folly of beginning a work before we
 “ count the cost, and before we judge rightly of our
 “ own strength to go through with it.

His more successful work is thus re-
 lated :

“ Besides this yearly labour, and my daily labour
 “ of going out with my gun, I had one labour to
 “ make me a canoe, which at last I finish'd : so
 “ that by digging a canal to it six feet wide, and four
 “ feet deep, I brought it into the creek, almost half
 “ a mile. As for the first, that was so vastly big, as
 “ I made it without considering beforehand, as I
 “ ought to do, how I should be able to launch it ;
 “ so never being able to bring it to the water, or
 “ bring the water to it, I was obliged to let it lie
 “ where it was, as a *Memorandum* to teach me to be
 “ wiser next time.

During his working on this canoe, the first terror of the savages breaks in on his mind from the following circumstance, so pathetically told.

“ It happen’d one day about noon, going towards
 “ my canoe, I was exceedingly surpris’d with the
 “ print of a man’s naked foot on the shore, which
 “ was very plain to be seen in the sand : I stood
 “ like one thunder-struck, or as if I had seen an
 “ apparition ; I listen’d, I look’d round me, I
 “ could hear nothing, nor see any thing ; I went up
 “ to a rising ground to look farther : I went up the
 “ shore, and down the shore, but it was all one I
 “ could see no other impression but that one : I went
 “ to it again to see if there were any more and to ob-
 “ serve if it might not be my fancy ; but there was
 “ no room for that, for there was exactly the very
 “ print of a foot, toes, heel, and every part of a foot ;
 “ how it came thither, I knew not, nor could in the
 “ least imagine. But after innumerable fluttering
 “ thoughts, like a man perfectly confused, and out
 “ of myself, I came home to my fortification, not
 “ feeling, as we say, the ground I went on, but ter-
 “ rified to the last degree, looking behind me at every
 “ two or three steps, mistaking every bush and tree,
 “ and fancying every stump at a distance to be a
 “ man ; nor is it possible to describe, how many va-
 “ rious shapes an affrighted imagination represented
 “ things to me in ; how many wild ideas were form’d
 “ every moment in my fancy, and what strange un-
 “ accountable whimsies came into my thoughts by
 the way.

SCENE

S C E N E III.

Represents the arrival of the savages in their canoes with their prisoners, and among the rest was *Friday*, whose escape and refuge is thus described :

“ I was dreadfully frightened (that I must acknowledge) when I perceived him to run my way ; and
 “ especially when, as I thought, I saw him pursued by the whole body : However, I kept my
 “ station, and my spirits began to recover, when I
 “ found that there were not above three men that
 “ followed him ; and still more was I encouraged,
 “ when I found that he outstrip’d them exceedingly
 “ in running and gained ground of them, so that if
 “ he could but hold it for half an hour, I saw easily
 “ he would fairly get away from them all.

S C E N E IV.

Changes again to the view of the boats, where Robinson Crusoe first sees *Friday*—it is thus described :

“ It came now very warmly upon my thoughts,
 “ and indeed irresistible, that now was my time to
 “ get me a servant, and perhaps a companion, or
 “ assistant, and that I was called plainly by providence to save this poor creature’s life ; so I immediately

“diately clapped myself in the way between the
 “pursuers and the pursued, hollooming aloud to
 “him that fled, who, looking back, was at first
 “perhaps as much frightened at me as at them; but
 “I beckoned with my hand to him to come back.
 “I was loth to fire, because I would not have the
 “rest hear; and being out of sight of the smoke
 “too, they would not have easily known what to
 “make of it. The poor savage, though he saw all
 “his enemies fly, yet was so frightened with the fire
 “and noise of my gun, that he stood stock-still,
 “and neither come forward, nor went backward,
 “though he seemed rather inclined to fly still, than
 “to come on. I made signs to come forward,
 “which he easily understood, and came a little
 “way, and then stopped again, and I could
 “then perceive that he stood trembling, as if he
 “been taken prisoner. I beckoned him again
 “to come to me, and gave him all the signs
 “of encouragement, that I could think of; and he
 “came nearer and nearer, kneeling down every ten
 “or twelve steps, in token of acknowledgment for
 “saving his life. I smiled at him, and looked plea-
 “santly, and beckoned him to come still nearer.
 “At length he came close to me, and then he
 “kneeled down again, kissed the ground; and laid
 “his head upon the grounds and taking me by the
 “foot, set my foot upon his head: this, it seems,
 “was in token of swearing to be my slave for ever.
 “I took him up, and made much of him, and en-
 “couraged him all I could.”

SCENE

S C E N E V.

Is the *Bower* of Robinson Crusoe, where he first carried *Friday*, as safer than making an immediate discovery to him of his *Cave*. This, his second plantation, was of a different nature from his fortified tent. It is thus described :

“ Besides this, I had my country-seat, and I had
 “ now a tolerable plantation there also ; for first, I
 “ had my little bower, as I call’d it, which I kept
 “ in repair ; *that is to say*, I kept the hedge which
 “ circled it in, constantly fitted up to its usual
 “ height, the ladder standing always in the inside ; I
 “ kept the trees, which at first were no more than
 “ my stakes, but were now grown very firm and
 “ tall ; and here, whenever I had occasion to be
 “ absent from my chief seat, I took up my country
 “ habitation. /

The inclosures for his cattle are here exhibited.

“ Adjoining to this I had my inclosures for my
 “ cattle, that is to say, my goats : and as I had taken an inconceivable deal of pains to fence and inclose this ground, I was so uneasy to see it kept entire, lest the goats should break thro’, that I never left off, till with infinite labour I had stuck the outside of the hedge so full of small stakes, and so near to one another, that it was rather a pale than an hedge, and there was scarce room to put an hand thro’ between them, which afterwards, when
 “ those

“ those stakes grew, as they all did in the next rainy
 “ season, made the inclosure strong, like a wall, in-
 “ deed stronger than any wall.

“ In this place also I had my grapes growing,
 “ which I principally depended on for my winter
 “ store of raisins, and which I never fail’d to preserve
 “ very carefully, as the best and most agreeable
 “ dainty of my whole diet; and indeed they were
 “ not agreeable only, but physical, wholesome,
 “ nourishing and refreshing to the last degree.

S C E N E VI.

Is the arrival of savages a second time, with
 more prisoners.

S C E N E VII.

Is a view of the savages round their fire—

“ I was surpris’d with seeing a light upon
 “ the shore—and terrified at the sight—I
 “ loaded my muskets and all my pistols—the
 “ naked savages sitting round a small fire they
 “ had made, not to warm them, for they had
 “ no need of that, but to prepare the barba-
 “ rous diet of human flesh, which they had
 “ brought with them.”—*Friday’s* terror is thus
 described.

“ *Friday* flew over my outward wall, or fence,
 “ like one that felt not the ground, or the steps he
 “ set

“ set his feet on ; I heartened him up as well as I
 “ could ; however, I saw the poor fellow most ter-
 “ ribly scared ; for nothing ran in his head but that
 “ they were come to look for him, and would cut
 “ him in pieces and eat him ; the poor fellow trem-
 “ bled so, that I scarce knew what to do with him :
 “ I comforted him as well as I could, and told him
 “ I was in as much danger as he, and that they would
 “ eat me as well him.

“ I took first, and divided the arms which I had
 “ charged, as before, between us : I gave *Friday* one
 “ pistol to stick in his girdle, and three guns upon
 “ his shoulder ; and I took one pistol, and the other
 “ three myself ; and in this posture we marched out.

“ I entered the wood, and with all possible wari-
 “ ness and silence (*Friday* following close at my heels,)

“ I marched till I came to the skirt of the wood, on
 “ the side which was next to them ; only that one
 “ corner of the wood lay between me and them : here

“ I called softly to *Friday*, and shewing him a great
 “ tree, which was just at the corner of the wood, I

“ bade him go to the tree, and bring me word if he
 “ could see there plainly what they were doing : he

“ did so, and came immediately to me, and told
 “ me they might be plainly viewed there ; that they

“ were all about the fire, eating the flesh of one of
 “ their prisoners ; and that another lay bound upon

“ the sand, a little from them, whom he said they
 “ would kill next, and which fired the very soul

“ within me. He told me, it was not one of their
 “ nation, but one of the bearded men whom he had

“ told me of, who came to their country in the boat.

“ I was filled with horror at the very naming the
 “ white-bearded man, and going to the tree, I saw

“ plainly, by my glass, a white man, who lay upon
 “ the beach of the sea, with his hands and his feet

“ tied

" tied with flags, or things like rushes; and that
 " he was an *European*, and had clothes on.
 " I had now not a moment to lose; so I set down
 " one of the musquets and the fowling-piece upon the
 " ground, and *Friday* did the like by his; and with the
 " other musquet I took my aim at the savages, bid-
 " ding him do the like. Then asking him if he was
 " ready, he said, yes. Then fire at them, said I; and
 " the same moment I fir'd also. They were in a dread-
 " ful consternation; and all of them, who were
 " not hurt, jump'd up upon their feet immediately,
 " but did not know which way to run, or which way
 " to look; for they knew not from whence their
 " destruction come. Upon which I rush'd out of
 " the wood, and shew'd myself, and *Friday* close at
 " my foot: I made directly towards the poor victim,
 " who was lying upon the beach. I pull'd out my
 " knife, and cut the flags that bound him and loosing
 " his hands and feet, I lifted him up, making signs
 " that he should drink, and I gave him bread which he
 " eat.

In this scene the plan that Robinson Crusoe
 followed to surprise the savages and the assist-
 ance that *Friday* gave to rescue the victim are
 conformable to the history.

SCENE VIII.

Represents the inside of Robinson Crusoe's
 cave with the furniture, and the various con-
 trivances he formed for supplying his wants.

" Had

Had my cave been to be seen, it look'd like a
 " general magazine of all necessary things, and I had
 " every thing so ready at my hand, that it was a
 " great pleasure to me to see all my goods in such
 " order, and especially to find my stock of all neces-
 " saries so great.

" I made me a table and a chair, in the first place,
 " and this I did out of the short peices of boards
 " that I brought on my raft from the ship : but when
 " I had wrought out some boards, I made large
 " shelves of the breadth of a foot an half, one over
 " another, all along one side of my cave, to lay all
 " my tools, nails, and iron-work, and in a word, to
 " separate every thing at large in their places, that
 " I might easily come at them ; also I knock'd peices
 " into the wall of the rock, to hang my guns, and
 " all things, that would hang up.

During this scene the sound of signal guns
 gives the first notice of some ship's having ap-
 proached the island—and in the ninth scene,
 Robinson Crusoe, Friday, &c. pass the stage
 towards the sea-shore.

SCENE X.

Discovers the English ship at anchor near
 the island---The story relates it thus :

" I cannot express the confusion I was in, at
 " the joy of seeing a ship, and one, which I had
 " reason to believe, was mann'd by my own coun-
 " trymen. When the boat
 C " drew

“ drew near the shore, I saw it contain’d eleven men;
 “ whereof three of them were unarm’d, and bound;
 “ and when the first four or five of them had jump’d
 “ on shore, they took those three out of the boat as
 “ prisoners: one of the three I could perceive using
 “ the most passionate gestures of intreaty, affliction
 “ and despair—The other two lifted up their hands
 “ sometimes, and appear’d concern’d, but not to so
 “ violent a degree—After the outrageous usage of
 “ the sailors, I observ’d they ran talking about the
 “ land,—While the three others had liberty to go
 “ where they pleas’d,—And while the sailors ram-
 “ bled about they had carelesly staid till the tide
 “ was ebb’d away, and their boat aground—At the
 “ time they were rambling about, or laid down to
 “ sleep the three distress’d men were anxious to take
 “ rest—I resolv’d to take this time to discover myself
 “ to them and learn something of their condition—
 “ At first they started at my appearance, and were
 “ confounded with my unaccountable figure, but ob-
 “ serving my gestures, they fell at my feet, and
 “ disclos’d their misfortune—Explaining to me that
 “ the crew of the ship had mutinied against them—
 “ Our case, Sir, said their leader, is this—I was
 “ commander of that ship, my men having mutinied
 “ against me; they have been hardly prevaild on not
 “ to murder me, and at last have set me on shore in
 “ this desolate place, with these two men with me,
 “ one my mate, the other a passenger. - After this
 “ explanation, I conditioned with them to obey my
 “ commands, and in case of their preservation, and
 “ the recovery of the ship, to carry me and my man
 “ Friday to England.”

SCENE

S C E N E XI.

Represents a woody part of the island, when Robinson Crusoe enters with Friday, and dispatches him to observe the rest of the crew, who had now landed in quest of their companions.

“ Those who last came, set up two or three
 “ great shouts—hallooing with all their might, to
 “ try if they could make the others hear—I order-
 “ ed Friday, and the Captain’s mate to go over
 “ the creek to the westward; and as soon as they
 “ came to a little rising ground, I bade them hal-
 “ loo as loud as they could, and wait till they found
 “ the seamen heard them; that as soon as they
 “ did, they should return it again, and then keep-
 “ ing out of sight, take a round, always answering
 “ when the others halloed, to draw them as far
 “ into the island, and among the woods, as possible,
 “ and then wheel about to me by such ways as I
 “ described. Friday and the mate managed their
 “ business so well, that they drew them, by hal-
 “ loing and answering from one to another, till
 “ they not only heartily tir’d them, but brought them
 “ where they could not find their way back.—We
 “ had nothing now to do but to watch them in the
 “ dark, and to fall upon them, so as to make sure
 “ work; but to be more certain, I drew my am-
 “ buscade nearer, till, in a word, they all laid
 “ down their arms, and begged their lives.”

SCENE

SCENE XII.

Is a view of the sea, and the arrival of the long-boat with the rest of the crew---Robinson Crusoe, the Captain, &c. enter, and a reconciliation follows.---After the *Song*, Robinson Crusoe, and all the characters go off in the long-boat, and the act concludes with the ship sailing away after the firing of the signal gun.

The *Story* being no longer pursued in the remainder of the representation, it is only necessary to add, that *Friday* being invested with the powers of Harlequin, after many fanciful bistrresses, and the usual pantomimical revolutions, receives his final reward in the hand of Columbine.



F I N I S.

S O N G,

Sung by Mr. GAUDRY,

In ROBINSON CRUSOE.

I.

COME, come, my jolly lads,
The wind's abaft,
Brisk gales our sails shall croud ;
Come bustle, bustle, bustle, boys,
Hawl the boat,
The Boatswain pipes aloud ;
The ship's unmoor'd,
All hands on board ;
The rising gale,
Fills ev'ry sail,
The ship's well mann'd and stor'd.

CHORUS.

Then sling the flowing bowl,
Fond hopes arise,
The girls we prize,
Shall bless each jovial soul ;
The can, boys, bring,
We'll drink and sing,
While foaming billows roll.

Tho'

II.

Tho' to the Spanish coast,
 We're bound to steer,
 We'll still our rights maintain;
 Then bear a hand, be steady, boys,
 Soon we'll see,
 Old England once, again.
 From shore to shore,
 While cannons roar,
 Our Tars shall shew,
 The haughty foe,
 Britannia rules the main.

CHORUS.

Then sling the flowing bowl,
 Fond hopes arise,
 The girls we prize,
 Shall bless each jovial soul;
 The can, boys, bring,
 We'll drink and sing,
 While foaming billows roll.



F. Y. N. I. S.